

EPI Update for Friday, September 5, 2014

Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)

Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **Imported case of Chikungunya in Iowa**
- **Rabies guidance for bat exposures**
- **Iowa Influenza Surveillance**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

Imported case of Chikungunya in Iowa

Iowa's first imported case of Chikungunya virus has been identified. A Central Iowa adult (18 to 40 years of age) male who recently returned from a trip to the Caribbean became ill with the virus; he was not hospitalized and is recovering. Nearly 700 cases of Chikungunya have been reported across the country and almost all have been imported cases. Only six locally transmitted cases (all in Florida) have been reported.

For more information about Chikungunya, visit

www.cdc.gov/chikungunya/pdfs/CHIKV_VectorControl.pdf.

Rabies guidance for bat exposures

Every fall, CADE receives many calls related to human exposure to bats. All potential bat exposures require a thorough evaluation.

The following situations are considered a potential bat exposure:

- A person is bitten by a bat
- A person has direct contact with a bat, and is unsure whether they were bitten (i.e., a bat flies into a person's arm)
- A bat is found in the same room as an unattended child, a sleeping person, or anyone who cannot reliably communicate what happened

If the bat is captured in these situations and tests negative for rabies, post-exposure prophylaxis is not needed. Post-exposure prophylaxis is recommended in these situations if the bat is not captured, is not testable, or tests positive or indeterminate for rabies.

For additional information on rabies, visit <http://www.idph.state.ia.us/Rabies/>

IDPH offers 24/7 guidance on rabies exposure criteria and post-exposure prophylaxis recommendations. Please contact IDPH if you have questions regarding a potential exposure in one of your patients. Between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, call (800) 362-2736. After hours, call (515) 323-4360.

Iowa Influenza Surveillance

With the flu season rapidly approaching, IDPH is encouraging health care providers to become part of Iowa's influenza surveillance efforts by serving as a sentinel surveillance site. (A special thanks to those sites that have contributed to the Iowa Influenza Surveillance Network in years past.) To learn more about the flu surveillance program or to become a sentinel site, please contact Kemi Oni at (515) 725-2136 or Oluwakemi.oni@idph.iowa.gov.

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

None

Have a healthy and happy week!

Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology
Iowa Department of Public Health
800-362-2736